GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4121
ANSWERED ON:27.03.2017
Kitchens in MDMS
Singh Shri Satya Pal

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the financial assistance provided by the Government for construction of Kitchen-cum-Store for cooking and safe storage of foodgrains in Schools under Mid-Day Meal Scheme across the country during each of the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise;

(b) the number of Kitchen-cum-Store constructed in Schools across the country during the said period, State/UT wise;

(c) whether the cases of irregularities/ corruption/under-utilisation of funds meant for construction of Kitchen-cum- Store have come to the notice of the Government during the said period;

(d) if so, the details thereof, State/UTwise and the reasons therefor; and

(e) the corrective steps taken/being taken by the Government to ensure adequate funds for construction of Kitchencum- Store in Schools and to strengthen the monitoring mechanism to keep an eye on utilization of such funds?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
(SHRI UPENDRA KUSHWAHA)

(a) & (b): Under Mid-Day Meal Scheme, financial assistance is provided for construction of kitchen-cum-stores as per the prescribed funding pattern, which has been revised w.e.f. 1.4.2015 and is 90:10 between Centre and States for North Eastern and 3 Himalayan States; 100% for Union Territories and 60:40 for all other States. The Central Government has released Rs. 8009.02 crore for construction of 10,05,477 kitchen-cum-stores during 2006-07 to 2015-16 out of which 7,96,319 kitchen-cum-stores have been constructed by the respective States/UTs. The State/UT-wise details of financial assistance provided by Government for construction of kitchen-cum-stores during the last three years and current year is given at Annexure-I. The State/UT-wise details of sanction and construction of kitchen-cum-stores is given at Annexure-II.

(c) to (e): During the last 3 years and current year, only one complaint was received regarding irregularity in utilization of funds release for construction of kitchen-cum-stores in Uttar Pradesh. The State Government of Uttar Pradesh has been requested to furnish an Action Taken Report (ATR) in the matter. The Government has adopted an elaborate monitoring mechanism at Central, State and District levels for smooth functioning of the scheme including proper utilization of funds released under the scheme. At national level, an Empowered Committee (EC), headed by Minister HRD; a National level Steering-cum-Monitoring Committee (NSMC) and Programme Approval Board (PAB), both headed by Secretary (School Education & Literacy), evaluate the performance of each State and UT in implementation of the Scheme and suggest measures for its smooth and effective implementation, which is a continuous process. The Programme Approval Board monitors allocation and utilization of funds for construction of kitchen-cum-stores. At the State level, a State level Steering−cum-Monitoring Committee headed by the State Chief Secretary and, at District Level, a District Level Committee under the Chairpersonship of the senior-most Member of Parliament of Lok Sabha of the district monitors the implementation of the scheme in the concerned District. At local level Gram Panchayats/Gram Sabhas, members of Village Education Committees (VECs), Parent-Teacher Associations (PTAs) and the School Management Committees (SMCs) are required to monitor the regularity and wholesomeness of the mid-day meal, cleanliness in cooking and serving of the meal, timeliness in procurement of good quality ingredients, fuel, implementation of variety in menu and ensuring social and gender equity on a daily basis. In addition, the Centre constitutes Joint Review Missions (JRMs) consisting of educational and nutritional experts, which review the scheme through field visits from time to time. The reports of JRMs are shared with concerned States/UTs for taking corrective action on the findings.

****